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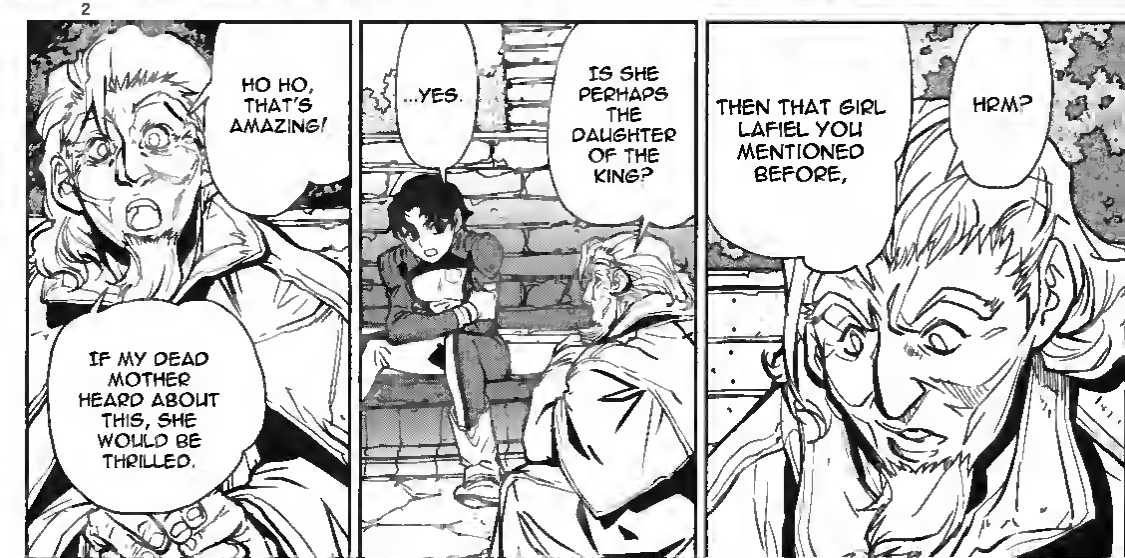
WE ARE STILL NOT OFFICIAL OFFICERS.
WITH THE FINAL DESTINATION HOPEFULLY BEING LAKFAKALLE.
YOU WANT TO INFORM SUFUGNOFF THAT THE BATTLE AGAINST THE [FOUR NATIONS ALLIANCE] HAS STARTED.
I SEE. IT'S ENOUGH REASON TO HELP.
THE CAPTAIN ALSO INTENDED FOR US TO TAKE REFUGE AS WELL


HO HO, THAT'S AMAZING!
IF MY DEAD MOTHER HEARD ABOUT THIS, SHE WOULD BE THRILLED.
...YES.
IS SHE PERHAPS THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING?
THEN THAT GIRL LAFIEL YOU MENTIONED BEFORE,
HRM?

ENOUGH WITH THE JOKES PLEASE.
MY HOUSE'S STATUS WILL GO UP.
JUST MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT HYDE WAS TOO MUCH.
SO THE KING'S DAUGHTER IS HERE.
AND?
YES, WE TOLD HIM
SO, DID YOU TALK TO MY SON ABOUT THE APPROACH OF THE [FOUR NATIONS ALLIANCE]?
I WOULD NOT GO THAT FAR...
SO YOU ARE SAYING YOU ARE HIDING IN A CELLAR CURLED UP IN A BALL?
WE WERE LOCKED IN THIS MANSION AND HE REFUSES TO LET US LEAVE PORT.
AN ABH'S PRIDE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IT SEEMS HE NEVER ACQUIRED IT.
THAT GUY...

THE ORBITAL MANSION IS LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT AN ENGINE.
THERE WERE SOME DESIGNER PRIVILEGES THAT I HAD THAT DIDN'T TRANSFER TO MY SON.
I WAS THE SHIPBUILDING OFFICER. I DESIGNED THIS MANSION.
I DON'T HAVE MUCH I WANT TO DO OUTSIDE.
BUT YOU COULD ASK FOR HELP OUTSIDE?
YOU WANT TO ASK IF I'VE RESIGNED MYSELF TO BEING IMPRISONED?
THEN WHY...
IF THERE WAS A TERMINAL NEARBY, I WOULD BE ABLE TO GET THIS MANSION'S COMPUTER NETWORK TO SUBMIT TO ME.
I COULD GRANT YOUR WISHES AS WELL.
4
IT WOULDN'T HURT IF YOU REMEMBERED THAT AS WELL.
THE EMPIRE WON'T INTERFERE WITH A NOBLEMAN'S HOUSEHOLD CIRCUMSTANCES.
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I LET THE OUTSIDE KNOW ABOUT THE PROBLEMS INSIDE THE TERRITORY?

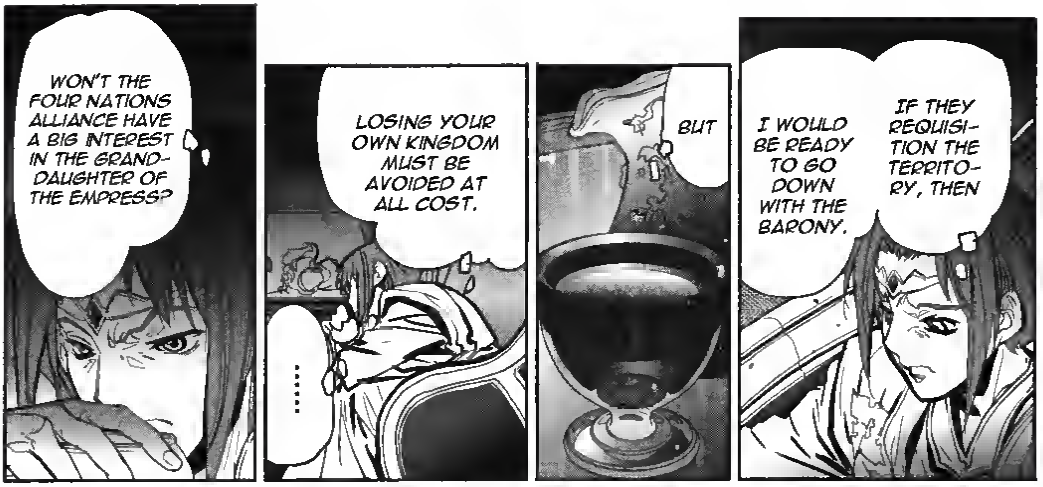
HEY HEY, WHAT WERE YOU EXPECT-ING?
IF I GAVE THE ORDER, THE LOVE LOVE YOUNG COUPLE WOULD ESCAPE HAND IN HAND?
ALSO, WELL, THIS CONFINE-MENT AREA DOESN'T HAVE A TERMINAL UNIT.
WHAT?
THE WORLD ISN'T THAT EASY.
I KNOW THAT.
ALSO ...
LAFIEL AND I AREN'T LOVERS.
5
I SAY IT TO HER FACE AS WELL.
AH, NO.
THAT IS...
IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN I MUST CHANGE MY EVALU-ATION OF YOU.
NOT MANY IN THE EMPIRE CAN DO THAT.
YOU SAY THAT BUT YOU CAN CALL HER BY HER FIRST NAME.
OR DO YOU ONLY SAY IT WHEN SHE ISN'T PRESENT?

IF THAT'S THE CASE ...
BUT IT'S A MIRACLE CAUSED BY IGNORANCE AND LUCK.
IF I EXPLAIN ANY FURTHER, IT WILL TURN INTO A LONG STORY.
ALSO IT WOULDN'T BE VERY INTERESTING.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE HAVE TO THINK OF A WAY OUT OF HERE.
WHAT IS THAT?
THAT IS THE PIER'S GATE.
GATE? BUT THIS IS THE SPACE PORT'S CONFINEMENT AREA, RIGHT?

THIS WAS ORIGINALLY THE VISITOR'S ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AREA
THE ELEVATOR ONCE STOOD THERE
THE IDEA WAS THE VISITOR THAT ARRIVED WOULD EXPERIENCE NATURE IN A LANDER KIND OF WAY

BUT UNFORTUNATELY THE ELEVATOR CAN'T BE PRESSURIZED.
CAN THAT GATE STILL BE USED?
IT CAN BE USED IF OPENED BY HAND FROM THE INSIDE.
AND THERE ARE NO PRESSURIZATION SUITS.
IF WE OPEN THE GATE, THE AIR INSIDE THE CONFINEMENT AREA WOULD POUR OUT
THAT'S TRUE.
IF THE COMM BOAT WAS AT THE GATE.. WE COULD USE THE SHIP'S PRESSURIZATION ROOM AND THEN THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM.
BUT HOW? WHO WOULD BRING THE SHIP?
ANYWAY, LETS GIVE UP ON THE GATE IDEA.
LET'S THINK OF ANOTHER WAY.

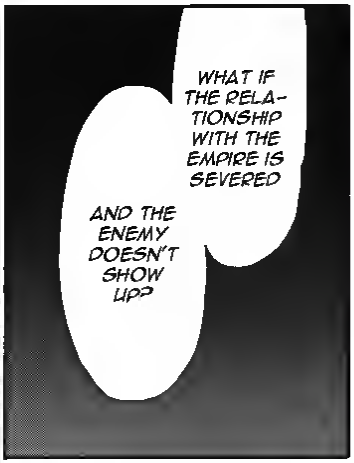
DID THE FOUR NATIONS ALLIANCE DISCOVER THE FEBDASH TERRITORY?
IF THAT'S THE CASE WILL THE TERRITORY SURVIVE?
THE BARONY HAS NO ARMS AND RESISTANCE IS IMPOSSIBLE.
THEY WOULD PUT PRESSURE ON THE ANTI-MATTER FUEL FACTORY AND SEIZE THE OTHER FACILITIES.


WON'T THE FOUR NATIONS ALLIANCE HAVE A BIG INTEREST IN THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF THE EMPRESS?
LOSING YOUR OWN KINGDOM MUST BE AVOIDED AT ALL COST.
.....
BUT
I WOULD BE READY TO GO DOWN WITH THE BARONY.
IF THEY REQUISITION THE TERRITORY, THEN

DELIVER THE PRINCESS WITH THE CONDITION THAT THE BARONY WILL BE SPARED.
A RELATIVE OF THE ABH'S EMPRESS WOULDN'T BE EFFECTIVE, BUT MAYBE THEY DON'T KNOW THAT?

IT COULDN'T BE EASILY TOUCHED.
ONCE IT BECOMES AN IMPORTANT SUPPLY BASE,
USING THE TERRITORY AS A STRATEGIC BASE FOR THE FOUR NATIONS ALLIANCE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS ACTING COOPERATIVE

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANT.


WHAT IF THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EMPIRE IS SEVERED
AND THE ENEMY DOESN'T SHOW UP?

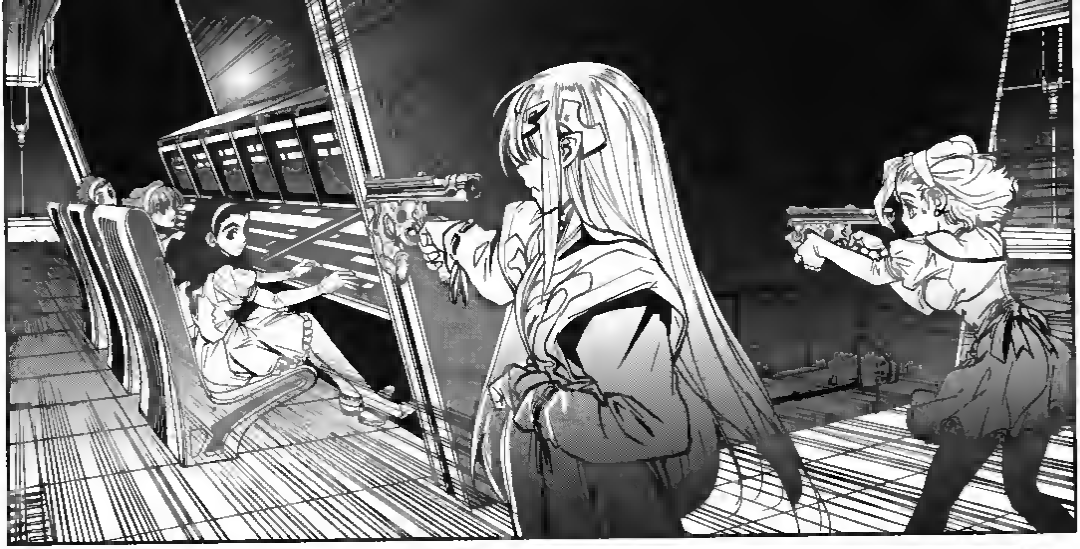
IF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE EMPIRE ARE HALTED, I WOULDN'T NEED TO FEEL INFERIOR EVEN WITH THE PRINCESS HERE.
IN THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL'S NOBLE SOCIETY, MY HOUSE'S HISTORY WOULD BE INFERIOR EVEN TO A LANDED GENTRY. BUT
A LITTLE WHILE AGO I WAS ABLE TO SAY WHAT I WANTED TO SAY
TO A REAL ABH. A PRINCESS AT THAT, DIDN'T I?
THE PRINCESS HAS NO POWER IN THIS TEPRITORY.
IN ALL PRACTICALITY I WOULD BECOME AN ABSOLUTE RULER.

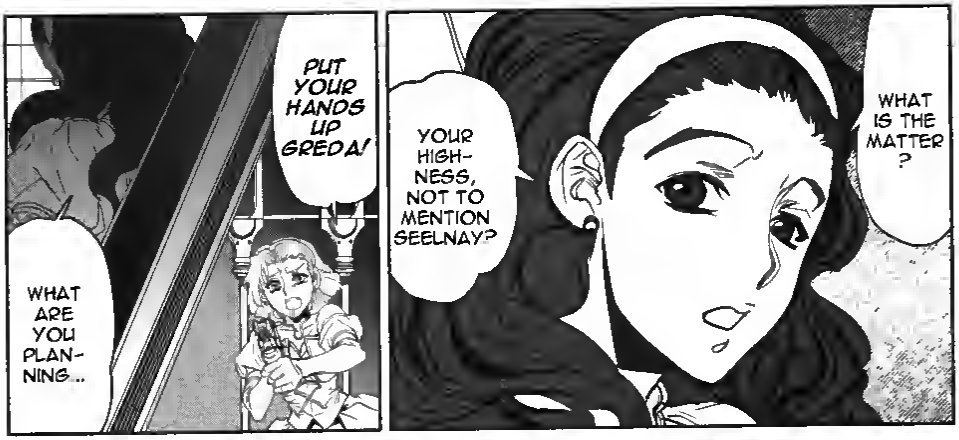
10

A KINGDOM NEEDS A SUCCESSOR...
A DRY REHEARSAL FOR THE UPCOMING GOVERNANCE OF THE KINGDOM.

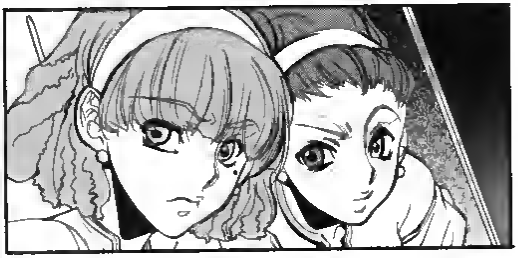
I'LL HAVE THE PRINCESS BEAR ME A SUCCES-SOR...
THAT'S IT.
WHAT IS IT!?
THIS IS GREDA FROM HOUSE-KEEPING.
I APOLOGIZE FOR INTER-RUPTING YOUR REST, BUT
THERE IS AN INVADER IN THE COMM. BOAT
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

DON'T MOVE!
THE STAR FORCES WILL NOW OCCUPY THIS AREA.




PUT YOUR HANDS UP GREDA!
WHAT ARE YOU PLAN-NING..
YOUR HIGH-NESS, NOT TO MENTION SEELNAY?
WHAT IS THE MATTER?

DO THE ROYALTY THINK THIS KIND OF JOKE IS FUNNY?
WHAT'S WITH THAT?



THERE IS NO POINT IN GOING BACK NOW.
AS I THOUGHT, THEY HAVE NOT BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE CIRCUM-STANCES.
THERE ARE VAS-SALS HERE AS WELL.
EVERYONE PLEASE PUT BOTH YOUR HANDS UP AND STAND UP.
IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THE MILITARY'S DUTIES, BARON FEDASH'S HOUSEKEEPING WILL BE OCCUPIED BY US
I DEMAND TO SPEAK TO THE PREVIOUS BARON.
THEN I'LL SAY IT NOW.
YOUR HIGH-NESS.
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR US TO DO, YOU COULD HAVE JUST LET US KNOW.
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

NO,
YOU SHALL FREE HIM AND COUNT HYDE.

VAS-SAL-DONO
THEN IT WAS CORRECT OF ME TO OCCUPY THIS AREA,

THAT IS FORBIDDEN. I CANNOT DO IT AT MY OWN DISCRETION.

DON'T MOVE KUFAS-PIA!

YOU SHALL HURRY AND FORGET THE BARON'S ORDERS.

DAMNIT.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER WEAPONS, TAKE THEM OUT.
ARE YOU SERIOUS, YOUR HIGHNESS?
ARE YOU SERI-OUS, SEEL-NAY?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KINDS OF STORIES YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE ABRIEL. BUT
17
I SEE.
I DON'T SHOOT PEOPLE FOR FUN.
I UN-DER-STAND, YOUR HIGH-NESS,
BUT OPENING THE RETIREMENT SECTION'S DOOR IS IMPOSSIBLE

WITHOUT OUR MASTER'S ORDERS, EVEN FROM HOUSE-KEEPING, WE CAN'T OPEN IT.
FOR THE RETIREMENT SECTION, OUR MASTER HAS TO BE IN THIS ROOM.
YOU MUST USE ONES ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVE CREST KEY AND EN-CRYPTION KEY.
REALLY ?
IT'S THE TRUTH.
EVEN IF IT'S A LIE, THERE IS NO POINT IN CHECK-ING...
.....
IT'S THE TRUTH.
IS THAT REALLY TRUE?
18
I UNDER-STAND.
YOU SHALL NOT DO ANYTHING STRANGE.
I WILL CON-NECT WITH THEM, PLEASE WAIT.
IT IS.
THEN HOW ABOUT TALKING TO THEM?
IS THAT POS-SIBLE?

ARE YOU HERE
PRIN-CESS !?

YOU CAME JUST AT THE RIGHT TIME, BARON.